



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 9th June 2020 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors S Barnet, L Browne, J Cousins, S Henderson, J Keery, P Lund, L MacDougall, I Mutch, B Outten, C Prior, S Roney-Dougal M Smyth and I Tucker

APOLOGIES: Councillors D Michell (unwell), Cottle, (District Council commitment) County Councillors Napper and Leyslon.

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk and three members of the public

This meeting was held through electronic means due to the Covid-19 lockdown

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TOOK PLACE BETWEEN 7.00 AND 7.15PM

Subjects raised included: Update on Glastonbury youth cricket teams

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Cousins, Keery, Lund and Tucker declared an interest as Directors of the Glastonbury Information Centre (item 13)

23. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM GLASTONBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ENTITLED 'THE ROAD TO RECOVERY'

Paul Manning (Acting Chair) of Glastonbury Chamber of Commerce presented the findings of a comprehensive survey of 165 retailers in Glastonbury. The questions asked were predominately around how can the post Covid-19 lockdown restrictions be partially lifted, whilst keeping safe retailers, shoppers and motorists? In summary, his comprehensive presentation identified that the majority of respondents favoured closing the traffic in one direction, with access for deliveries and buses only. Removal of existing roadside parking and the creation of an additional loading bay towards the top of the High Street. Cllr Smyth emphasised the need for safety and suggested that risk assessments be prepared and regularly revised. Cllr Browne proposed, seconded by Cllr Tucker and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the introduction of various measures to improve pedestrian access and safety in light of lifting restrictive Covid-19 measures be pursued. 12-0-0

24. TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN POLICE REPORT

PC Katie Moyse had previously submitted a written report which had been circulated and placed on the website. The key points included: Gatherings of groups in violation of Covid-19 legislation town centre anti social behaviour, breaches of PSPO's regulations and a hit and run incident at Paradise. Subsequent to the report, the clerk informed that an encampment of 9 vehicles has been reported on land off Porchestal Drive.

25. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH MAY 2020

Following one small amendment on committee membership, the minutes were considered a correct record and presented for signing.

26. TO DISCUSS THE CONTINUATION OF THE EMERGENCY POWER.

The Clerk provided a summary of the protocol which has been followed by the Town Council since the introduction of restrictions on meetings due to Covid-19. Since 24th March, the Clerk has the devolved powers to manage the daily affairs of the council, sharing any decisions required with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. This power has been reviewed on numerous occasions. Cllr Keery proposed, seconded by Cllr Smyth and unanimously **AGREED** that the current arrangements are continued, with a further review at the July meeting of the Council 12-0-0

27. TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF:

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 19th May were presented by the Chair, Cllr Browne and approved by the Council

28. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Leyshon had submitted a written report which had been circulated and placed on the council's website. The main items included details on various programmes to re-open buildings and services following the Covid-19 lockdown.

29. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Cousins had submitted a written report which had been previously circulated. He added that he was directly involved with the Economic Development team at Mendip in creating a virtual summer solstice event on 21st June.

Cllr Henderson informed that he had not attended any meetings since the last meeting but will be attending a Glastonbury Living Spaces in early July

Cllr MacDougal has attended virtual cabinet meetings at Mendip DC where items including air quality and active travel were discussed. She reported that the first electrically powered taxi is now registered with Mendip DC. She also spoke about funding opportunities in support of cycle revitalisation and creating active pathways.

30. TO RECEIVE THE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Considering that an extraordinary meeting to present the revised budget had recently been held and that there was still no response from the CEO or Leader at Mendip DC to the request for financial support, the Budget Monitoring report was not presented.

31. TO RECEIVE THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The schedule of payments was presented to which no questions were asked of the clerk.

32. LICENCE APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- a. **The Crown Inn:** It was recognised that a large investment is taking place to bring the premises up to a good standard and that support is required to assist the applicant to ensure the business becomes viable. Councillors were however alarmed by the proposed length of operating hours and make the following recommendations.

The premises licence is considered too long and the Town Council would be supportive of an application for a licence between the hours of 11.00am – 11.00pm Sunday – Thursday and 11.00am – 11.30pm Friday and Saturday. The reasons behind this recommendation are:

1. The premises has unfortunately a history of being problematic, with late night drinkers spilling out into the street, where anti-social behaviour resulted in much damage being done to the infrastructure and street scene of the town.

2. The Crown Inn in in close proximity to many residential dwellings and it is considered unkind on these people to be subjected to potential late night and early morning disturbance seven days of the week.
3. There is a process which allows for the licence holder to apply for extensions to the approved licencing hours. In the event of there being an increase in noise, anti-social behaviour etc, the application process for extended hours operations could be used to ensure any issues are addressed.
4. The Taxi stand and buses do not operate that late into the evening, which could leave people stranded in Glastonbury.
5. Sadly, there is a continuation of reported anti-social behaviour regularly being reported in the vicinity of the Market Cross and the Crown Inn. Councillors were concerned that this application does nothing to address these issues at this location.

Proposed by Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Barnet and unanimous that Glastonbury Town Council cannot support the licence application that has been presented.
12-0-0

- b. **The Old Pottery:** Councillors were supportive of this application to sell cider for consumption off the premises. It was agreed that that whilst supportive of the application, the applicant must be aware of their responsibilities to ensure alcohol is not sold to inebriated people who may have been banned from purchasing alcohol from other outlets. Proposed Cllr Tucker, seconded Cllr Ronay-Dougal and unanimously approved 12-0-0
- c. **Street Trading licence application – Somerset Peddlers** Councillors were supportive of the application to sell ice creams from a bicycle at a location near to St John's Church. Proposed Cllr Tucker, seconded Cllr Keery – unanimously approved.
12-0-0

33. ADDRESSING HOUSING NEEDS – Led by Cllr Brian Outten

Cllr Outten informed that he has observed that little is seemingly be undertaken to resolve the issues of addressing homelessness and housing needs within Glastonbury. He informed that he considered it a responsibility of the council to research the issues and identify potential solutions. Among items that required additional input is research of possible sites for residential development, cost effective and ecological, low impact design. He suggested that an Advisory Committee be convened to research and understand the issues and possible solutions. He envisaged inviting non-councillor participation from people with an understanding of the subject. A clearly defined Terms of Reference is to be devised and presented at the first meeting of Councillors only. The following asked to be involved in the Advisory Committee: Cllrs Outten, MacDougal, Henderson, Keery, Browne, Smyth, Prior, Tucker, Cousins and Barnet.

34. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

- a. **Glastonbury Information Centre – Cllr Ian Tucker**
The restrictions relating to the movements of people due to the Covid-19 legislation have meant that without serious consideration and alterations to the Information Centre, it will prove impossible to make the Information Centre safe for staff and customers. As the building is owned by the Town Council and leased (at no cost) the Information Centre, a request has been received to remove the glass partition into the Bay Window (garden) room. The expense of removing the window, reopening and making good a second entrance,

redecorating, installation of comms cabling, power and lighting will all be met by the Information Centre. Consent is simply requested for use of the room. Cllr Browne proposed, seconded by Cllr Outten and unanimously **AGREED** that the suggested additional use of the room be approved. 8-0-0 (4 Cllrs had previously declared an interest).

- b. Community Fridge – Cllr Serena Roney-Dougal
Having previously consented to the ground floor lift entrance being available within which to locate a Community Fridge, Cllr Roney-Dougal provided an update on the project. A carpenter has visited the premises and is devising a costed plan of what is required to make the fridge and area safe. There is a requirement to register the area as a food outlet with individuals obtaining certificates in food handling. The setting up of the legal status for the group, together with obtaining a bank account had been requested with the Town Council. In response, the council resolved to act as the accountable body for the formal registration of the project, providing both an initial ‘bankroll’ facility for funding and insurance – while supporting the fridge project to become ‘stand alone’ and not reliant on the Town Council for managing its financial and legal affairs. Proposed by Cllr Cousins, seconded by Cllr Roney-Dougal and unanimously **AGREED**. 12-0-0

35. MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor has circulated previously his announcements.

36. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Virtual Solstice. Concerns had been previously raised regarding the anticipated influx of people coming to Glastonbury to attend the summer solstice. Despite advertising the fact that Glastonbury is currently closed to visitors, intelligence is indicating that some people are looking to celebrate the summer solstice in Glastonbury. Mendip DC have contracted a tourism professional to design and relay appropriate messages which has culminated in a ‘virtual solstice’ being organised for the morning of 21st June. Social media has already received in excess of 350,000 hits on this subject.
- b. Cllr Tucker informed that the tarmacking of the pathways at the cemetery was well underway and should be completed this week.

37. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence

38. NEWS RELEASES

The Clerk is to prepare a news release on the soon to be convened Housing and Homelessness Advisory Group to be distributed after the first meeting of the group.

A news release promoting the virtual summer solstice is to be prepared.

39. ACTIONS

- Prepare a draft Terms of Reference for the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee
- Meet with partners involved with the pedestrianisation of the High Street and share the outcomes.
- Meet with partners involved with trying to prevent the attendance of individuals who may come to Glastonbury to celebrate the summer solstice.

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The meeting close at 9.45pm.

Signed _____

Worshipful Mayor
14th July 2020